



**TECHNOLOGIES, INC.**

*Divisions Waterbury Button Company  
Diversified Eyelet Company  
Northeast Emblem & Badge Company*

February 23, 2010

To Members of the Labor Committee

My name is Sal Geraci. I am the Vice President and co-owner of OGS Technologies, Inc. located in Cheshire. We have three divisions - Diversified Eyelet Company, Northeast Emblem & Badge Company and the flagship of our divisions The Waterbury Button Company. For those that are not familiar with the Waterbury Button Company, it is one of the oldest companies in continued existence in the state (and probably the country) - having gotten its start in 1812.

That being said, I find it hard to believe that with companies leaving the state of Connecticut (and the country) there is yet another effort to add to the cost of doing business by bringing up (SB-63) a bill to grant employees additional, non-productive, paid time off away from work. An expense that businesses have to find a way to pass on to their customers without losing them. What is the thought process? And for God's sake, why now when the global economy is in a pretty sad state of affairs?

First of all, let me say that I am familiar with the "entitlement" of paid sick days. My wife was a union employee at the Woodbury Telephone Company before it closed down. A typical conversation to a co-worker would be that "I have (pick a number) more sick days coming that I have to use, otherwise I will lose them". I am not singling her out, because that is what happens in the real world. Now, those of you that don't believe that those that take sick days are not really sick are those that still believe in the Tooth Fairy.

Maybe these "paid sick days" works for government and public employees, because they have nothing to sell to pay for it. It is funded by tax payers and businesses that have to come up with a way to fund it. But that's another story for another day.

And by the way, hasn't anyone noticed that businesses are failing and people are out of work because it is tough to do business and compete with China, Korea, India and the like? The list is too long to include all.

Waterbury Button Company Diversified Eyelet Company  
203-271-9055 • 800-928-1812 • Fax: 203-271-9852  
[www.waterburybutton.com](http://www.waterburybutton.com)

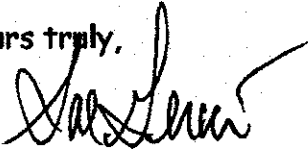
Northeast Emblem & Badge Company  
203-272-1280 • 800-316-3009 • Fax: 203-272-3879  
[www.nebadge.com](http://www.nebadge.com)

Additionally, has not anyone noticed that while America's businesses are dwindling, the off-shore businesses are thriving? Do yourself a favor and remove from your body everything that that you have on that is not made in the USA. Go ahead. I will bet you a week's pay that if you are not totally naked by the time you get through; you will still be arrested for indecent exposure.

Connecticut has the reputation of being an unfriendly state to do business in. The state is not doing a good job at controlling spending; preferring to find new sources of revenue. So the question that begs answering is "will adding another burden onto businesses be a good thing or a bad thing"? It is rather a redundant question, don't you think? I don't remember verbatim the story about the "Golden Goose" from my childhood, but I do remember how it ended - one squeeze too many. I have to tell you that if I didn't live in Connecticut and wanted to start a business - Connecticut would not make it into my top 25 choices.

I have rambled on more than I intended. I hope that those that are considering piling an additional burden onto Connecticut manufacturers give it a long hard look - as what may look like a good, I guarantee will certainly have unintentional consequences that will hasten the exodus from the state.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sal Geraci", with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

Sal Geraci  
Vice President